AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) An electric potential therapy apparatus for generating a negative electric field by applying a high-voltage alternating current that is biased to a negative side, to an electric field generating plate electrode, comprising:

a voltage change pattern storing means for storing a plurality of voltage change patterns on which a voltage is changed with time;

a voltage change pattern selecting means for selecting one from the plurality of voltage change patterns stored in the voltage change pattern storing means; ~~and~~

an alternating current generating circuit which reads the voltage change pattern selected by the voltage change pattern selecting means, from the voltage change pattern storing means and generates a high-voltage alternating current of which a voltage varies in accordance with the voltage change pattern [,] ; and

an electric field generating plate electrode which inputs the higher-voltage alternating current from the alternating current generating circuit and generates an electric field,

wherein the changing of voltage is implemented by increase or decrease of voltage at steps of 90 to 110 V per second.

wherein the electric field generating plate electrode is disposed inside the electric potential therapy apparatus with a predetermined distance from a surface of the electric potential therapy apparatus,

wherein the high-voltage alternating current generated from the alternating current generating circuit is biased to a negative side, and

wherein the electric field generated from the electric field generating plate electrode is a negative electric field.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Canceled)

4. (Currently Amended) An electric potential therapy apparatus for generating a negative electric field by applying a high-voltage alternating current that is biased to a negative side, to an electric field generating plate electrode, comprising:

an alternating current pattern storing means for storing a plurality of alternating current patterns each of which is prepared by combination of a voltage and a waveform, a voltage and a frequency, or a voltage, a waveform and a frequency, each of which is changing with time;

an alternating current pattern selecting means for selecting one from the plurality of alternating current patterns stored in the alternating current pattern storing means; ~~and~~

an alternating current generating circuit which reads the alternating current pattern selected by the alternating current pattern selecting means, from the alternating current pattern storing means and generates a high-voltage alternating current of which a voltage, a waveform and a frequency vary in accordance with the alternating current change pattern [,] ; and

an electric field generating plate electrode which inputs the high-voltage alternating current from the alternating current generating circuit and generates an electric field,

wherein the changing of voltage is implemented by increase or decrease of voltage at steps of 90 to 110 V per second,

wherein the electric field generating plate electrode is disposed inside the electric potential therapy apparatus with a predetermined distance from a surface of the electric potential therapy apparatus,

wherein the high-voltage alternating current generated from the alternating current generating circuit is biased to a negative side, and

wherein the electric field generated from the electric field generating plate electrode is a negative electric field.

5. (Original) The electric potential therapy apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the voltage change patterns are not of a rectangular wave pattern.

6. (Original) The electric potential therapy apparatus according to Claim 4, wherein the alternating current patterns are not of a rectangular wave pattern.

7. (Canceled)

8. (Currently Amended) The electric potential therapy apparatus according to Claim 1, further comprising :

a massage unit; and

a controller,

wherein the controller controls a generation of the negative electric field from the electric field generating plate electrode and a function of the massage unit based on instructions from a user.

9. (Currently Amended) The electric potential therapy apparatus according to Claim 8, further comprising:

a backrest; and

a footrest,

wherein the massage unit ~~includes~~ comprises:

kneading rollers moving up and down in [a] the backrest;

~~and a footrest having~~ a roller massager in the footrest.

10. (Currently Amended) The electric potential therapy apparatus according to Claim 1, further comprising:

an ion generator, and

a controller,

wherein the controller controls a generation of the negative electric field from the electric field generating plate electrode and a generation of ion from the ion generator based on instructions from a user.

11. (Currently Amended) The electric potential therapy apparatus according to Claim 4, further comprising:

a massage unit; and

a controller,

wherein the controller controls a generation of the negative electric field from the electric field generating plate electrode and a function of the massage unit based on instructions from a user.

12. (Previously Presented) The electric potential therapy apparatus according to Claim 4, further comprising:

an ion generator, and

a controller,

wherein the controller controls a generation of the negative electric field from the electric field generating plate electrode and a generation of ion from the ion generator based on instructions from a user.

13. (NEW) The electric potential therapy apparatus according to Claim 1, a voltage of the high-voltage alternating current generated from the alternating current generating circuit is equal to or greater than 800 V.

14. (NEW) The electric potential therapy apparatus according to Claim 1, a current of the high-voltage alternating current generated from the alternating current generating circuit is equal to or lower than some hundreds of microamperes.

15. (NEW) The electric potential therapy apparatus according to Claim 1, the plurality of voltage change patterns has a pattern in which a voltage of the high-voltage alternating current generated from the alternating current generating circuit is increased and decreased alternately with the passage of time, and one of a crest potential locus of successive crests and a trough potential locus of successive troughs gradually increases while the other gradually decreases.

16. (NEW) The electric potential therapy apparatus according to Claim 4, a voltage of the high-voltage alternating current generated from the alternating current generating circuit is equal to or greater than 800 V.

17. (NEW) The electric potential therapy apparatus according to Claim 4, a current of the high-voltage alternating current generated from the alternating current generating circuit is equal to or lower than some hundreds of microamperes.

18. (NEW) The electric potential therapy apparatus according to Claim 4, the voltage has a pattern in which a voltage of the high-voltage alternating current generated from the alternating current generating circuit is increased and decreased alternately with the passage of time, and one of a crest potential locus of successive crests and a trough potential locus of successive troughs gradually increases while the other gradually decreases.

19. (NEW) An electric potential therapy apparatus for generating a negative electric field by applying a high-voltage alternating current that is biased to a negative side, to an electric field generating plate electrode, comprising:

a voltage change pattern storing portion for storing a plurality of voltage change patterns on which a voltage is changed with time;

a voltage change pattern selecting portion for selecting one from the plurality of voltage change patterns stored in the voltage change pattern storing portion;

an alternating current generating circuit which reads the voltage change pattern selected by the voltage change pattern selecting portion, from the voltage change pattern storing portion and generates a high-voltage alternating current of which a voltage varies in accordance with the voltage change pattern; and

an electric field generating plate electrode which inputs the high-voltage alternating current from the alternating current generating circuit and generates an electric field,

wherein the changing of voltage is implemented by increase or decrease of voltage at steps of 90 to 110 V per second,

wherein the electric field generating plate electrode is disposed inside the electric potential therapy apparatus with a predetermined distance from a surface of the electric potential therapy apparatus,

wherein the high-voltage alternating current generated from the alternating current generating circuit is biased to a negative side, and

wherein the electric field generated from the electric field generating plate electrode is a negative electric field.

20. (NEW) An electric potential therapy apparatus for generating a negative electric field by applying a high-voltage alternating current that is biased to a negative side, to an electric field generating plate electrode, comprising:

an alternating current pattern storing portion for storing a plurality of alternating current patterns each of which is prepared by combination of a voltage and a waveform, a voltage and a frequency, or a voltage, a waveform and a frequency, each of which is changing with time;

an alternating current pattern selecting portion for selecting one from the plurality of alternating current patterns stored in the alternating current pattern storing portion;

an alternating current generating circuit which reads the alternating current pattern selected by the alternating current pattern selecting portion, from the

alternating current pattern storing portion and generates a high-voltage alternating current of which a voltage, a waveform and a frequency vary in accordance with the alternating current change pattern ; and

an electric field generating plate electrode which inputs the high-voltage alternating current from the alternating current generating circuit and generates an electric field,

wherein the changing of voltage is implemented by increase or decrease of voltage at steps of 90 to 110 V per second,

wherein the electric field generating plate electrode is disposed inside the electric potential therapy apparatus with a predetermined distance from a surface of the electric potential therapy apparatus,

wherein the high-voltage alternating current generated from the alternating current generating circuit is biased to a negative side, and

wherein the electric field generated from the electric field generating plate electrode is a negative electric field.